



The Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President

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President Nez and Vice President Lizer approve resolution to fund the Navajo Veterans Administration for the remainder of FY 2021 to help veterans

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – On Wednesday, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer signed into law Resolution CMA-13-21, which will fund the Navajo Veterans Administration for the remainder of the current fiscal year through the end of September 2021 and allow the office to provide financial assistance for Navajo veterans.

When the FY 2021 Comprehensive Budget was making its way through the Navajo Nation Council's Standing Committees last year, the budget was amended to fund only half of the fiscal year budget for the Navajo Veterans Administration "to allow for more time to obtain additional information before approving the Fiscal Year 2021 budgets," according to the current resolution.

"Across the board, we know that we have to do better to support our veterans. With the signing of this resolution, the Navajo Veterans Administration can now provide more assistance to Navajo veterans. As we look forward, we continue to seek the Council's support for legislation to fund a housing manufacturing facility to construct homes for veterans and others. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development recently announced that the Navajo Nation will receive nearly \$50 million, in addition to the annual Indian Housing Block Grant, through the American Rescue Plan Act to carry out affordable housing for our people. Veterans, elders, and disabled must be included in the allocation and use of those funds and we have to push Navajo Housing Authority to do better as well," said President Nez.

The legislation, sponsored by Council Delegate Raymond Smith, Jr., was unanimously approved by the 24th Navajo Nation Council on March 26 by a vote of 23-0.

"We thank Vice Chair Raymond Smith and the entire Council for their support. We have to continue working together to address the internal issues that hinder support and services for veterans. Our administration looks forward to addressing the housing manufacturing legislation once it is introduced into the legislative process," said Vice President Lizer.

Resolution CMA-13-21 is effective immediately with the approval of President Nez and Vice President Lizer. The Nez-Lizer Administration thanks the 24th Navajo Nation Council, Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council, and other veterans' organizations for their support.

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